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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/735,556  
Applicant : Veilleux et al.  
Filed : 12/12/2003  
TC/A.U. : 1724  
Examiner : Barry, Chester T.  
Docket No. : LUP-108  
Confirmation No. : 3915

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the attached references listed on attached form PTO-1449, which relate to the subject matter of the present invention, be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

It is believed that no fees are due at the present time as this statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). However, in the event of any inadvertent fee deficiency or overpayment, authorization is hereby given to charge or credit such deficiency or overpayment to deposit account number 12-2147.

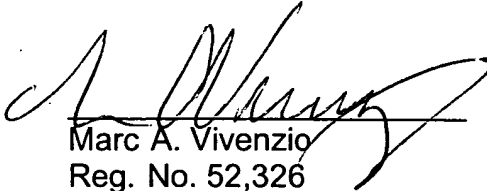
Filed herewith is a copy of each reference listed on form PTO-1449. For non-English-language reference FR 2 818 265, an English-language version of a search report from a counterpart international (PCT) application which indicates the degree of relevance of said reference as determined by the European Patent Office, is attached

hereto in accordance with section 609 III. (A)(3) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), second full paragraph, in fulfillment of the concise explanation of relevance requirement set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(3)(i). Applicants wish to note that reference FR 2 818 265 was given an "A" designation on the search report, indicating that it defines the general state of the art only and is not considered to be of particular relevance. Likewise, references US 5,739,031 and US 4,895,645, also listed on the search report, were given the same "A" designation.

While this statement contains all of the relevant information presently known to the Applicants, it should not be interpreted as a representation that an exhaustive search has been conducted or that no other relevant information exists. Moreover, the Applicants invite the Examiner to make an independent evaluation of the cited references to determine their relevance to the subject matter of the present application.

Finally, the Applicants urge that their claims are patentably distinguishable over all disclosed relevant information or any combination thereof.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lorusso & Loud



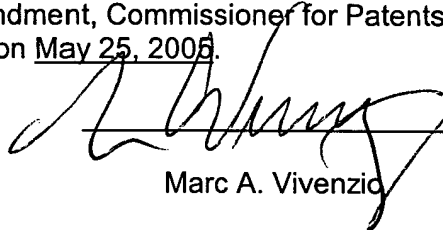
Marc A. Vivenzio  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL (37 CFR 1.8)

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and any paper or document referred to therein as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 25, 2005.



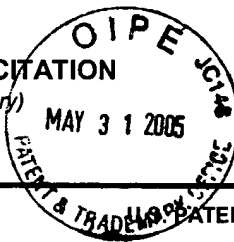
Marc A. Vivencio

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>LUP-108</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/736,556</b>		
				APPLICANT(S) <b>Veilleux et al.</b>				
				FILING DATE <b>12/12/2003</b>		GROUP ART UNIT <b>1724</b>		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		3,627,135	12/14/1971	Goodman				
		4,895,645	01/23/1990	Zorich, Jr.				
		5,194,144	03/16/1993	Blough				
		5,609,754	03/11/1997	Stuth				
		5,739,031	04/14/1998	Runyon				
<b>U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS</b>								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		WO 03/055808	07/10/2003	WIPO			✓	
		WO 04/052795	06/24/2004	WIPO			✓	
		FR 2 818 265	06/21/2002	France				✓
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
		International Search Report for counterpart International Application No. PCT/CA02/01922, completed 08/15/2003.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)



ATTY DOCKET NO.

LUP-108

APPLICATION NO.

10/736,556

Veilleux et al.

FILING

12/12/2003

GROUP ART

1724

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,372,137	04/16/2002	Bounds			
	6,461,500	10/08/2002	Hoage et al.			
	6,531,062	03/11/2003	Whitehill			

## **U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

## **OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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